

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VOE-00 SCA-01 L-03 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 JUSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1936

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PBOR, SGEN, MX

SUBJECT: ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS: REPORTED COMMENTS BY COS AND CHICANO
LEADER

1. JUNE 4 MEXICO CITY PRESS WIDELY CARRIED EFE REPORT DATED
WASHINGTON REPORTING LATEST, OUTRAGEOUS CLAIMS MADE BY WILLIAM
HIGGS ON BEHALF OF COMMITTEE FOR OPEN SOCIETY (COS). ACCORDING
TO THIS REPORT, COS CONTENDS THAT DEPORTATION OF LATIN AMERICAN
ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS, ESPECIALLY MEXICANS, "WOULD ALMOST PRODUCE
ECONOMIC CHAOS" IN US. ACCORDING TO COS CALCULATIONS, THERE ARE
6 MILLION ALIENS ILLEGALLY IN THE US, DEPORTATION OF WHOM WOULD
CAUSE A LOSS OF 5.3 PERCENT (PRESUMABLY OF GNP) OR \$70 BILLION
DOLLARS FOR NATIONAL ECONOMY. HIGGS' STATEMENT REPORTEDLY ENDS
WITH CHARGE OF "NAZI GESTAPO" TACTICS USED IN TRACKING DOWN
ILLEGALS.

2. CONTRARY TO GENERAL PRESS TREATMENT, EXCELSIOR INCLUDED SOME
OF COS CHARGES IN LONGER ARTICLE DEVOTED TO STATEMENTS
ATTRIBUTED TO GILBERTO PADILLA, SECRETARY TREASURER OF UNITED
AGRICULTURAL WORKERS. PADILLA QUOTED AS HAVING STATED THAT
"CHICANOS WILL REJECT ANY AGREEMENT ON BRACEROS BETWEEN MEXICO
AND US... WE ARE AGAINST A BRACERO AGREEMENT BECAUSE OF THE
INJUSTICES IMPLIED FOR LEGALLY CONTRACTED WORKERS... NATURALLY A
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BRACERO PROGRAM WOULD PLEASE BOTH THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT AND US

FARMERS... IF WE HAD TO CHOOSE, WE WOULD PREFER THAT ILLEGAL WORKERS CONTINUE TO ENTER BECAUSE THESE AT LEAST HAVE THE RIGHT TO RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY OR MOVE ON AS THEY DESIRE. THE ILLEGAL WORKER KNOWS HE IS COMING ON AN ADVENTURE. THEY ARE VICTIMS, BUT THIS IS PREFERABLE TO THEIR BEING SO IN THE LEGALIZED FORM ... THEY (THE ILLEGALS) ARE THE ONES WHO BREAK 90 PERCENT OF THE FARM STRIKES IN THE 5 SOUTH WESTERN STATES..." IN SAME ARTICLE CONGRESSMAN ROYBAL IS QUOTED AS HAVING TAKEN A STRONG ANTI-BRACERO STAND.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE REPEAT OF FULL TEXT OF REMARKS BY PADILLA AND CONGRESSMAN ROYBAL WHICH APPARENTLY CORROBORATE OUR BELIEF THAT THE CLIMATE IN THE U.S. FOR A NEW BRACERO PROGRAM IS NOT PROPITIOUS.
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